

he didn't like to stay on the phone long, but he knew when you needed him, and he would be there. He was a compassionate and kind man, a side of him that many people did not see but many people also benefited from greatly over the years. It is my incredible honor to be able to hold the seat he occupied so well for so long.

Harry Reid accomplished so much as a Nevada Senator. Born in the little town of Searchlight, NV, he knew his home State better than anyone. He understood that Nevada was a microcosm of our country. He knew that Nevada's diversity mirrored this Nation's, and that is why Senator Reid worked to give Nevada a greater role in deciding each party's nominee for President. He wanted to ensure that a State as diverse and dynamic as Nevada played an important role in choosing America's leaders.

Harry Reid also understood Nevada's landscapes, from the desert outside of Searchlight that so many of us have heard about to the snowy peaks of the Ruby Mountains in winter, to the glistening waters of Lake Tahoe. He was a dedicated environmentalist who helped conserve Nevada's abundant national treasures, keeping our State beautiful for future generations and protecting outdoor recreation that fuels our State's economy.

And we all know he would not back down from a fight, especially when it involved Nevada; whether that was blocking every effort to dump nuclear waste at Yucca Mountain without Nevada's agreement or advocating for Federal funding to help upgrade Nevada's schools, airports, roads and bridges, he was relentless in his push to get our State the resources that we deserved.

Harry Reid was as diligent in supporting Nevada's rural and Tribal communities as he was in building up our world-class cities. He helped create Nevada's booming clean energy economy and make the State a destination for those looking to build an innovative, sustainable future.

The changes that he helped set in motion were so far-reaching that they allowed Nevada to benefit from the innovation economy of the 21st century. He paved the way for us. It isn't just Nevadans who are better off because of Harry Reid; the entire country gained because of his hard work and his dedication. He helped rescue the country by getting America through the great recession, taking extra care to support the hospitality and tourism economies that are so vital to the economy and the jobs in Nevada.

He was instrumental in protecting Nevada's and the Nation's Dreamers and immigrant families.

In his crowning legislative achievement, he fought tirelessly to get millions of Americans access to affordable healthcare. His work was key to ensuring that the Affordable Care Act became law, lowering healthcare costs and giving access to high-quality care to millions who didn't have it before.

Harry Reid was a great American, but first and foremost, he was a great Nevadan. He never forgot where he came from, and there is no doubt in my mind that is what motivated him every single day. As Nevada's son, he made a tremendous difference for our State and for every American. He was a wonderful friend and a true public servant and for that we will miss him in the Senate and across the Nation.

#### TRIBUTE TO CLINTON JEROME HILL

Mr. President, I would also like to talk a little bit today about another incredible American whom I have come to know. Both my husband and I, Paul and I, got to know this individual over the years. He has become a friend. He is an incredible American, and today is his birthday. His name is Clinton Jerome Hill.

Clint is a true hero, the iconic Secret Service agent who jumped onto a moving car while bullets flew in an effort to save President Kennedy from an assassination.

Born on this day in 1932, Clint Hill grew up in the tiny town of Washburn, ND. He was a good student; he loved music; and he was an outstanding athlete. Clint went on to attend Concordia College in Moorhead, MN, where he was a standout football and baseball player, graduating in 1954.

Though Clint had visions of being a history teacher and athletics coach, he was drafted immediately into the U.S. Army, where he worked in counter-intelligence in an Army field office in Denver, CO.

In 1955, President Dwight D. Eisenhower happened to be in Colorado on vacation when the President suffered a heart attack and was hospitalized for 7 weeks. That is when Clint ended up meeting several members of Eisenhower's Secret Service detail. He was deeply impressed with the dignity and demeanor of these fine men. At that time, there were just 269 agents in the entire Secret Service organization and, in 1958, Clint became one of them.

A year later, Agent Hill was assigned to the White House at age 27. He was one of a handful of men responsible for protecting the President of the United States. In 1959 and 1960, Clint Hill traveled with President Eisenhower on his goodwill tours to Europe, Asia, India, the Middle East, and South America.

When John F. Kennedy was elected President in 1960, Clint was assigned to protect the First Lady, Jacqueline Kennedy. Both President and Mrs. Kennedy were fond of Agent Hill and trusted him implicitly. Wherever Mrs. Kennedy went, Clint Hill was by her side.

And so it was that Agent Hill accompanied President and Mrs. Kennedy to Texas on November 22, 1963. Clint was present at the horrifying moment in Dealey Plaza when President Kennedy, riding in an open convertible, was shot. Clint immediately began to run toward the President's car to protect him, and many of us have seen that dramatic footage: Jackie Kennedy extending her hand back to Agent Hill, who leapt

onto the back of the moving car and jumped into the vehicle as it sped away to Parkland Hospital in Dallas.

After President Kennedy's tragic assassination, Clint Hill continued to protect Jacqueline Kennedy and her two children. Then, in 1964, he was transferred back to the White House. And in 1967, he became the Special Agent in Charge of Presidential Protection for President Lyndon Johnson. Throughout 1968, Clint was a Secret Service agent who had LBJ's back.

Clint Hill devoted his life to the Secret Service, ultimately being promoted to Assistant Director in Charge of all Protective Forces. He was married, had two sons, but like so many selfless Secret Service agents, he missed countless holidays, anniversaries, and birthdays.

In 1975, Clint retired from the Secret Service, a job and organization that he loved. In the years since, he has written three best-selling books about his work with his coauthor and now wife, Lisa McCubbin.

Today is Clint's 90th birthday. So, today, I want to pay tribute to a true American hero, a man who was willing to put his life on the line, not once but time and again to protect our leaders.

Now, I know something of the sacrifice this involves. My husband Paul is a retired Secret Service agent, and I am familiar with the commitment it takes for an agent to walk out that door every day to defend the President from threats. So on behalf of Paul, myself, the entire Masto family, we want to wish a happy birthday to our friend Clint Hill. Thank you for your service to our country and our sincere best wishes for many more wonderful years ahead.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, I know that you are probably like me and you have been grateful for the time to be home and to see family and friends and just to chat with them about what is going on in their lives and the issues that are important to them, what they are looking at. It has been so interesting to get their perspective as we have visited.

I flipped through the papers yesterday, and I realize that many of our friends around town have this renewed sense of optimism about President Biden's ability to lead the country. I found that really quite interesting. You could look at it and say: It may be a new year, but it is the same old Biden.

It goes without saying that I do not share what I see as a misguided view. I entered this year with the same